

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for processing user preference and related user information, said method comprising:

storing the user preference information on a wireless storage device;

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selectively transmitting said user preference information from said wireless storage device to a receiving device at a service facility; and

- 15 transmitting said user preference information from said receiving device to a control system at said service facility for controlling selected services in accordance with said user preference information.

- 20 2. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said wireless storage device comprises a smart card including non-volatile, programmable memory means.

- 25 3. The method as set forth in claim 2 wherein said smart card further includes transceiver means selectively operable for transmitting and receiving information.

- 30 4. The method as set forth in claim 3 wherein said smart card further includes display means for displaying information received by said transceiver means.

5. The method as set forth in claim 4 wherein said smart card further includes processing means for processing information within said smart card.

6. The method as set forth in claim 5 wherein said smart card further includes input means for enabling user input to said wireless storage device.

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7. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said service facility comprises a lodging facility, said control system being operable in response to receiving said user preference information for assigning a lodging unit to said user.

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8. The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said control system is further responsive to receiving said user preference information for implementing said user preferences for said lodging unit assigned to said user.

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9. The method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said user preference information includes preferred temperature settings for said lodging unit.

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10. The method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said user preference information includes preferred wake-up alarm settings for said lodging unit.

11. The method as set forth in claim 7 and further including:

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transmitting lodging unit information from said control system to said smart card, said smart card being selectively operable to use said lodging unit information to unlock said lodging unit assigned to said user.

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12. The method as set forth in claim 4 wherein service facility comprises a lodging facility, said control system

being operable in response to receiving said user preference information for assigning a lodging unit to said user, said control system being further operable for:

5 transmitting address information identifying said lodging unit assigned to said user to said smart card; and

displaying said address information on said display means of said smart card.

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13. The method as set forth in claim 12 wherein said smart card is enabled to use said address information to unlock said lodging unit assigned to said user.

15 14. The method as set forth in claim 13 wherein said lodging unit includes a unit receiving device at an entrance to said lodging unit, said unit receiving device being operable in response receiving said address information from said smart card for unlocking said lodging
20 unit assigned to said user.

15. The method as set forth in claim 7 wherein said user preference information includes predetermined reservation information, said control system being selectively operable
25 for automatically initiating user check-out processing in accordance with said predetermined reservation information.

16. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said service facility comprises a vehicle rental facility, said control
30 system being operable in response to receiving said user preference information for assigning a rental vehicle to said user in accordance with said user preference information.

17. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said service facility comprises an airline facility, said control system being operable in response to receiving said user preference information for assigning reserved services to
5 said user in accordance with said user preference information.

18. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said user preference information is stored in flash memory on said
10 wireless storage device.

19. A processing system for processing user preference and related user information, said processing system comprising:

15 a wireless storage device for storing user preference information;

a receiving device at a service facility, said wireless
20 storage device being selectively operable for transmitting said user preference information from said wireless storage device to said receiving device at said service facility;
and

25 means for transmitting said user preference information from said receiving device to a control system at said service facility for controlling selected services in accordance with said user preference information.

30 20. A programmed media item selectively operable when read into memory of a computer system for generating program signals to enable processing of user preference and related user information, said program signals being further operable to enable:

receiving user preference information from a wireless storage device;

- 5 transmitting said user preference information from said receiving device to a control system at said service facility for controlling selected services in accordance with said user preference information.